

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1-14. (canceled).

15. (currently amended): A method for reducing pigmentation of the skin after UV exposure, comprising a step of applying an effective amount of a whitening cosmetic composition to the skin of a subject in need thereof after said UV exposure;

wherein the whitening cosmetic composition comprises a component selected from the group consisting of d,1- $\alpha$ -tocopherol dimethylglycine ester hydrochloride, d- $\alpha$ -tocopherol dimethylglycine ester hydrochloride, d- $\gamma$ -tocopherol dimethylglycine ester hydrochloride, and d- $\delta$ -tocopherol dimethylglycine ester hydrochloride in an amount of 0.1-10% by mass.

16-17. (canceled).

18. (previously presented): The method according to Claim 15, wherein said component is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of d- $\gamma$ -tocopherol dimethylglycine ester hydrochloride and d- $\delta$ -tocopherol dimethylglycine ester hydrochloride.

19. (previously presented): The method according to Claim 15, wherein said component is d- $\gamma$ -tocopherol dimethylglycine ester hydrochloride.

20. (canceled).
21. (previously presented): The method according to Claim 15, wherein said component is d- $\delta$ -tocopherol dimethylglycine ester hydrochloride.
- 22-25. (canceled).
26. (previously presented): The method according to Claim 15, wherein an added amount of said component ranges from 2.0 to 10% by mass.
27. (previously presented): The method according to Claim 15, wherein said component is d,1- $\alpha$ -tocopherol dimethylglycine ester hydrochloride.
28. (previously presented): The method according to Claim 15, wherein said component is d- $\alpha$ -tocopherol dimethylglycine ester hydrochloride.
29. (previously presented): The method according to Claim 18, wherein an added amount of said component ranges from 2.0 to 10% by mass.
30. (previously presented): The method according to Claim 19, wherein an added amount of said component ranges from 2.0 to 10% by mass.
31. (previously presented): The method according to Claim 21, wherein an added amount of said component ranges from 2.0 to 10% by mass.

32. (previously presented): The method according to Claim 27, wherein an added amount of said component ranges from 2.0 to 10% by mass.

33. (previously presented): The method according to Claim 28, wherein an added amount of said component ranges from 2.0 to 10% by mass.

34. (previously presented): The method according to Claim 15, wherein an added amount of said component ranges from 0.5 to 2% by mass.

35. (previously presented): The method according to Claim 18, wherein an added amount of said component ranges from 0.5 to 2% by mass.

36. (previously presented): The method according to Claim 19, wherein an added amount of said component ranges from 0.5 to 2% by mass.

37. (previously presented): The method according to Claim 21, wherein an added amount of said component ranges from 0.5 to 2% by mass.

38. (previously presented): The method according to Claim 27, wherein an added amount of said component ranges from 0.5 to 2% by mass.

39. (previously presented): The method according to Claim 28, wherein an added amount of said component ranges from 0.5 to 2% by mass.